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MMB

MM93-48

November 21, 1995  
21 Bolan Drive  
Huntington Sta., NY 11746

Dear Mr. Hundt,

I am writing to you as a concerned viewer and advocate for quality children's programming. The Children's Television Act of 1990 was intended to provide educational and informational viewing for young people, yet it has been continually violated and/or disregarded since its inception. This noncompliance has not gone unnoticed, and has been extremely disappointing.

Rather than concluding that television is just one more hazard from which children must be protected, it is my hope that those in charge of the programming will take further responsibility for the welfare of this nation's younger population.

I urge you to please support regulations requiring a reasonable amount of quality, educational, and enjoyable programming to be provided for children. Currently, there are very few such shows and even fewer opportunities for children to see them because they are being forced out by other presentations.

Thank you very much, in advance, for recognizing your obligation to protect the interests of those members of our community who rely on your judgment the most.

Sincerely,

*Dana J. Grasso*  
Dana J. Grasso

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November 22, 1995

Monica Warnock  
Box 577545  
Georgetown University  
Washington, DC 20057

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Dear Chairman Hundt,

As a student of child development, I would like to urge you to consider the importance of educational television for children in today's climate of change. What the networks pretend to consider educational is a disgraceful representation of the way that children's needs are brushed aside in today's television. Children have impressionable minds which we as adults need to be aware of. The airwaves belong to all the people. We need the FCC to make it clear to the networks that if they wish to use our airwaves, then they must make an effort to produce a minimum of quality television that is useful.

The television shows that NBC, CBS, FOX and ABC have listed as having educational value should be viewed by the FCC. These shows are shamefully deficient in any sense of educational value. Often they are violent, senseless, and intended only to sell products. The FCC needs to enforce the rules that the networks are ignoring.

What children view on the television set has influence on what they think. Please consider this when the licenses are up for renewal. Don't accept lame excuses. The networks are fully aware of what has been asked of them. They have chosen to ignore the Children's Television Act thus far. It's time to make a decisive stand for what is fair.

Sincerely,

*Monica M. Warnock*

Monica Warnock

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95110495

MM93-48

November 20, 1995

Reed E Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt:

My name is Yolanda Hawkins and I am a student at Georgetown University. Currently, I am enrolled in a course entitled Children and Technology. One aspect of the course consist of viewing television programs that are geared toward children and evaluate their ability to deliver prosocial and educational messages. The networks that were examined included Fox, ABC, and CBS. Of the three networks, none of them fulfilled the requirements of the Children's Television Education Act. Together the total amount of time allotted to prosocial and educational programs was 3-4 hours per week.

Another problem that should be addressed is the increase violent/aggressive message that is being delivered to the young viewers. Instead of producing quality educational shows the networks are bombarding their young audience with material that advocate violent behavior. The major theme of children's television is centered around this negative hostile conduct. As supported by extensive research, children tend to imitate the actions that are frequently exposed to them. Increasing the number of quality educational and prosocial programs would not only be beneficial to the youth, but to society as a whole. With this in mind, I am writing to encourage the FCC to become more active in making sure that the networks provide quality material for the children of the United States of America.

Thank you for listening to my concerns and I hope that this letter will provide some insight.

Sincerely,

*Yolanda Hawkins*  
Yolanda Hawkins

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COMPLAINT  
INVESTIGATION

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MM93-48

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILE

Christina Spagnuolo  
3729 Winfield Ln. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20007  
(202) 298-8047

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL  
WTTG-TV

Mr. Hunt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. St.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

November 21, 1995

Dear Mr. Hunt,

I am presently taking a course at Georgetown University in which we are studying the effects of television on children and their development. On Saturday, November 11, 1995, I watched Fox from 7:00 A.M. until 12:00 noon. I assessed its content for educational and informational programming which the Children's Television Act of 1990 requires broadcasters to provide. Of the ten programs I watched, only two had educational and informational value; Where in the World is Carmen San Diego and Not Just News. The public service announcements, Totally For Kids, were educational, prosocial and are very beneficial in childhood development yet they only make up under fifteen minutes of a five hour period. My classmates watched ABC and CBS attempting to learn if enough educational content were in the programs on both of these networks. They found ABC to only have two educational and informational programs, Captain Planet and Madison's Adventures. ABC also had School House Rock which was extremely educational but only two and a half minutes long. CBS was found to have three educational programs, National Geographic, Reality Check and Beakman's World. All three stations provide less than an hour and fifteen minutes of educational and informational programs in a five hour time period.

There need to be more programs that contain educational and informational content. If other interesting shows like Where in the World is Carmen San Diego were created, there would be a market for them as well as a means for children to learn while partaking in their favorite past time, watching television. You are in a position to make a difference in the lives of children across the United States. Please Help!

Sincerely,

Christina Spagnuolo  
Christina Spagnuolo

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RECEIVED  
NOV 28 10 17 AM '95  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

November 21, 1995

Jason J. Lee  
3348 Prospect Street NW  
Washington, DC 20007

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Reed E. Hundt  
Chair, Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW, Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt,

I am writing in concern of children's television programs. The concern is about the educational value that these programs may or may not contain. After taking a course in college about the subject, I have learned that television does have a significant impact on viewers, especially with children. I have watched several current children's programs, and I have come to the conclusion that a lot of the shows are not providing a sufficient amount of informational or educational material.

Although there are shows that provide characters with pro social behaviors, I believe many of the behaviors are not clearly expressed to children. It seems that some programs are also hard for them to understand. Nonetheless, there could be more programs available that are educational and informational. These shows should also be available during various times within the week, and not only shown in one particular time or day.

I hope that members of the FCC considers this topic to be an important issue. Children view television during many hours of the week, and can acquire a lot of information in doing so. It would seem appropriate for them to learn some type of material that is of importance, while watching television. I believe that the major broadcasters should be required to show a certain number of hours that deal with educational and information material. I also suggest that this requirement should definitely be followed, and to make sure that the broadcasters provide this, a fine could be established.

I realize that it takes time and money for this to happen, but it seems worthwhile for children to become exposed to positive materials. I am not saying that all of the programs for children are negative and that all of them should be educational and informational. However, I do believe there should be at least an even distribution of the type of material that is shown throughout the day. I hope the FCC will seriously consider this issue.

Thank you,

*Jason J. Lee*  
Jason J. Lee

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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MM93-48  
3422 O Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20007  
November 21, 1995  
nmb

Chairman Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing this letter in regard to the ongoing debate involving the enforcement of providing educational and pro-social programming for children by broadcasters. The Children's Television Act of 1990, requiring broadcasters to provide educational and informational programming to young viewers, is an important and necessary aspect in regulation of broadcasting. Too often children are neglected as an audience because of their lack of ability to meet advertisers' needs as a viable market. Children are being bombarded with violent and action packed shows, yet the educational and pro-social aspects that we should be instilling in our children are falling by the wayside.

Children's programming has been focused around creating shows based on the success of marketed toys. Advertisers utilize violence in cartoons to elicit attention and heighten awareness of children in order to deliver a carefully timed advertisement. It is unfortunate that the well-being of children's intellectual growth and development is being abandoned in favor of the capitalist dollar.

Studies have shown that certain formal features for programs can be utilized to raise children's attention without using violence; for example, sound effects, rapid action, scene changes, and music can be used to capture children's attention. Thus, there would be a compromise between appeasing the advertisers and providing an educational and pro-social media environment for children.

I recently viewed Saturday morning cartoons and was shocked to find that between 7 a.m. and 12 p.m., only half of the programs were devoted to children. Some of the shows viewed were attempting to be informative, yet others were still laced with violence and non-educational content. Thus, it seems necessary to regulate the content of children's programming in order to insure that children will not fall victim to a perception of their environment as wholly violent.

Several strides have been made in creating educational environments which are entertaining, yet they are not being implemented. Perhaps if broadcasters were forced to move in this direction, a plethora of forms could be created which may make significant differences in the development of children as educated and pro-social participants in society. Thank you for your attention to this critical issue involving the well-being of children.

Sincerely,

*Kristin M. Hosmer*

Kristin M. Hosmer

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MM93-48

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# DYNAMO RADIO

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

AIRPLAY FOR KIDS!

November 20, 1995

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I have spent the last three years writing and developing the format for a children's radio station. The culmination of my effort is Dynamo Radio- "Air play For Kids." The programming design provides a full range of audio entertainment for pre-school through pre-teen kids (see enclosure).

My initial on-air goal is to establish Dynamo Radio here in San Diego. I basically have four potential options in which to do this. Those options are as follows:

## OPTION #1- CONVINCE AN EXISTING RADIO STATION TO CHANGE FORMATS

This first option is the least appealing since the control of Dynamo Radio programming would be under the management of another company. Philosophies might be different. Commitment to kids programming may not be as strong. An existing station's overhead would be far, far greater than mine. It would get Dynamo Radio on the air, but with a lot of compromise.

## OPTION #2- LEASE THE AIR TIME OF AN EXISTING RADIO STATION

This would entail contracting with an existing station to lease out their frequency. Dynamo Radio would then take control of the programming and broadcast over that frequency. Though it is true that this option would allow Dynamo Radio to get on the air, the constraints would be the same that any lessee experiences. This option is financially troublesome. A good portion of the Dynamo Radio income would go toward the lease instead of being used for development of better kids programming.

## OPTION #3- PURCHASE AN EXISTING RADIO STATION

Due to the high cost that even a floundering AM radio station would command, this option is not possible without some major financial support. Dynamo Radio has a definite interest in investing in a station if it had some help from some major benefactors. Dynamo would greatly appreciate any ideas, contacts, or interested parties that you know. Purchasing an existing station, though quite costly, would create the type of uninhibited freedom to allow Dynamo Radio to really take off and soar. It would give kids radio a solid opportunity to establish a strong toe-hold and broad listener base.

**P.O. BOX 600140 SAN DIEGO, CA 92120**

**PHONE OR FAX (619) 265-2261**

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#### OPTION #4- SECURE AN OPEN FREQUENCY FROM THE FCC

This is the best option of the four. If the Federal Communications Commission would grant Dynamo Radio a license to broadcast then kids radio in San Diego would become a reality. I believe this option is the most financially feasible. It doesn't require the same high level of outside financial aid necessary as with the purchase of an existing station. The yearly budget would be smaller thus allowing Dynamo Radio to offer advertising rates that even the smaller, local businesses could afford.

The problem with this option is that Dynamo Radio has already had an engineer perform a preliminary study on the available, San Diego frequencies. A couple of frequencies could be utilized. However, based on the hard number, statistical results, radio stations on neighboring frequencies coming out of Orange County cause supposed interference. However, San Diegans cannot even receive these Orange County transmissions. If you tune in the frequencies in question all you get is static.

What Dynamo Radio is proposing is that the FCC grant a low power, Class C AM radio station license. This would allow Dynamo Radio to serve San Diego and its immediate surroundings. Dynamo would even adjust its signal so that it doesn't even come close to impeding on any Orange County stations (which it probably wouldn't anyway). I find it very distressing that radio stations that one cannot even receive in San Diego are keeping a wonderful project like Dynamo Radio from using available frequencies. Dynamo's planned usage for such a frequency has a far reaching, positive impact on the children of the area. It would be terrible if such a distant, inaudible hindrance would keep this voice of, and for the kids, silenced.

DynamoRadio's main concern is that it gives the youth of this area an opportunity to cultivate the interest in the wonderful medium of radio. Right now, there is so little for the kids on the radio waves. Most of the time the children have to listen stations the adults and older siblings happens to like. Dynamo Radio wants to change that unfortunate fact. Dynamo would greatly appreciate any help you could provide. Specifically:

- a. help convince the FCC to grant a frequency to DynamoRadio.
- b. provide any information on potential investors, sponsors, and/or supporters.
- c. offer your personal endorsement for Dynamo Radio (if, in fact, you believe it is a worthwhile concept).
- d. meet with you personally to discuss DynamoRadio in detail.

Thank you very much for your time. I respectfully request your response and await with great anticipation.

Sincerely,

Jeff Cotta  
Dynamo Radio

enclosure: Dynamo Radio overview

A I R P L A Y F O R K I D S !





DynamoRadio offers an innovative, wholesome format for a population specifically targeted by the Federal Communications Commission as needing more attention from broadcasters...specifically children.

DynamoRadio features a format for kids from three to thirteen. The programming is lively, fun, and educational that encourages the growth of both brains and bodies. It is radio that teaches kids to see with their minds, stretch their imaginations, and develop such powerful internal strengths that a positive self image becomes a welcome fringe benefit to this abundant source of entertainment.

DynamoRadio is programmed to greet children each morning with a mixture of features to help younger children start their day and charge up school age kids as they prepare for school. Music, exercise, the morning fable, school news, student star segments, human interest stories and kids oriented hard news are just some of the programs that fill the time slots before school.

During the morning, midmorning and early afternoon hours, DynamoRadio shifts its focus of attention to pre-school school children. A blend of educational features, coincide with fascinating stories, interactive radio events and music for the young listeners.

As the older kids start coming home from school, DynamoRadio slowly seques to features for the school age kids. Stories, DynamoRadio featurettes, campus news, kids oriented hard news, and interactive radio events for the big kids carry the afternoon.

The later afternoon offers a music break segment featuring contemporary and past favorite's music for kids. The music is carefully screened so that songs containing violent, profane, and/or suggestive lyrics are not aired. The music will be upbeat and the host will interact with prearranged "cub reporters" and impromptu guests who will inform the audience of daily campus events and current happenings that are of interest to kids.

DynamoRadio takes a nostalgic turn during the evening hours. Radio plays and stories from past and present are featured for the enjoyment of kids (and parents). These entertaining programs are designed to either help tuck young ones in for the night and/or provide an excellent source of entertainment for older kids and their folks. The final hour of kids programming (9:00 PM to 10:00 PM) is set aside for more kids' tunes. It features a selection of mellow contemporary and past favorites. The music during this evening segment is meant to entertain and help listeners unwind.

The philosophy of DynamoRadio is that (with rare exception) all kids targeted by its programming should be in bed and asleep after 10:00 PM. Therefore the remainder of its broadcast day is set aside for parents. A two-hour parents show follows the daily kids programming. This feature is a combination call-in talk show and informative program with guests from a variety of backgrounds and professions that will offer entertaining, informative insights into issues that pertain to kids.

In general, DynamoRadio gives children a chance to tune past all the programming on radio that is directed quite a good distance over their heads. They can finally tune to that unique spot on the dial that is just for them. A station to which they will listen with enthusiasm and devotion...DynamoRadio.

A I R P L A Y F O R K I D S !